

AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which claims 1-5 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 6-10 are newly presented.

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (New) A press belt in a pressing apparatus comprising the press belt rotated endlessly and pressing means provided inside and/or outside a periphery of the press belt, comprising:

many drain grooves extending along a belt travel direction; and

many lands positioned between the adjacent grooves and extending along the belt travel direction, wherein

said land has an upper surface which is entirely curved upwardly as a transverse sectional configuration along a belt width direction.

7. (New) The press belt according to claim 6, wherein said transverse sectional configuration of the land is an upward parabolic configuration.

8. (New) The press belt according to claim 6, wherein side walls on both sides of said land are tapered so that their width is reduced toward the upper side.

9. (New) The press belt according to claim 6, wherein

said upper surface of the land comprises a linear part on its top as a transverse sectional configuration along the belt width direction, and

when it is assumed that a width of said linear part is “s” and a width of the land is “W”, a relation between them is such that $s/W < 0.10$.

10. (New) A shoe press roll comprising an external cylinder comprising an endless press belt, and a pressure shoe positioned inside a periphery of said external cylinder as pressing means, wherein

said external cylinder is the press belt according to claim 6.